AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/843.250

Filing Date: April 26, 2001

Title (as amended): MODIFIED NAPHTHALENE DIOXYGENASES AND METHODS OF USE

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## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (Currently amended) A naphthalene dioxygenase complex or naphthalene dioxygenase related complex comprising a plurality of polypeptides, wherein the complex or the related complex catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate and comprises at least one alpha-subunit polypeptide that is SEQ ID NO:26 and further comprises: 1) a substituted amino acid at a position corresponding to position 352 in an alpha-subunit having of SEQ ID NO: 26, 2) a substituted amino acid at a position corresponding to position 201, 202, 260, 316, 351, 358, 362, or 366 in an alpha subunit having of SEQ ID NO: 26, or 3) a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 352 of SEQ ID NO:26, and a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 201, 202, 260, 316, 351, 358, 362, or 366 in an alpha-subunit having of SEQ ID NO: 26, or 4) a fragment of any of 1-4 that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.
- 2. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 1 having an alphasubunit that comprises SEQ ID NO:26 and an amino acid other than phenylalanine at position 352 of SEQ ID NO: 26, or a fragment thereof that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.
- 3. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 1 having an alphasubunit that comprises SEQ ID NO:26 and a substituted amino acid at position 201, 202, 260, 316, 351, 352, 358, 362, or 366 of SEQ ID NO: 26, or a fragment thereof that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.
- 4. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 1 having an alphasubunit that comprises a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 352 of SEQ ID NO:26, and a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 201, 202, 260, 316, 351, 358, 362, or 366 of SEQ ID NO: 26; or a fragment thereof that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.

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5. (Cancelled) The naphthalene dioxygenase related complex of claim 1 having an alpha-subunit that comprises a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 352 of SEO ID NO: 26; or a fragment thereof that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.

- 6. (Cancelled) The naphthalene dioxygenase related complex of claim 1 having an alphasubunit that comprises a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 201, 202, 260, 316, 351, 352, 358, 362, or 366 of SEQ ID NO: 26; or a fragment thereof that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.
- 7. (Cancelled) The naphthalene dioxygenase related complex of claim 1 having an alpha-subunit that comprises a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 352 of SEQ ID NO:26, and a substituted amino acid at the position corresponding to position 201, 202, 260, 316, 351, 358, 362, or 366 of SEQ ID NO: 26; or a fragment thereof that catalyzes oxidation of an aromatic substrate.
- 8.( Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 2 wherein the amino acid at position 352 is a naturally occurring amino acid.
- 9. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 2 wherein the alphasubunit comprises SEQ ID NO:2, 32, 33, 34, 35, or 36.
- 10. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 2 wherein the alphasubunit comprises SEQ ID NO:2.
- 11. (Cancelled) The naphthalene dioxygenase related complex of claim 5 wherein the amino acid at the position corresponding to position 352 has been substituted with a naturally occurring amino acid.

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12. (Cancelled) The naphthalene dioxygenase related complex of claim 5 wherein the amino

acid at the position corresponding to position 352 has been substituted with valine.

13.( Cancelled) The naphthalene dioxygenase related complex of claim 5 wherein the alpha-

subunit comprises SEQ ID No: 2.

14-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises alanine, glutamine, or serine at position 201.

31. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises leucine or valine at position 202.

32. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises alanine, leucine, or asparagine at position 260.

33. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises alanine at position 316.

34. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises asparagine, arginine, or serine at position 351.

35. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises alanine at position 358.

36. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alpha-

subunit that comprises alanine at position 362.

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37. (Currently amended) The naphthalene dioxygenase complex of claim 3 having an alphasubunit that comprises tryptophane at position 366.

38.(Withdrawn) A oligonucleotide comprising any one of SEQ ID No's 37 and 40-55.